

8 May 1985

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~~17 MAY 1985~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: George V. Lauder  
Director, Public Affairs Office

SUBJECT: Decline a Radio Appearance

1. Action Requested: Sign the attached letters to Missouri Senators Danforth and Eagleton.

2. Background: St. Louis' KMOX Radio will originate its "At Your Service" program from Washington 10-14 June. Senators Danforth and Eagleton are helping to sponsor guests for the program and have invited you to appear.

3. Staff Position: We have long maintained a policy of keeping radio and TV at arms length because (a) appearances make our liaison services nervous (b) such programs like to feature controversy and sensationalism, which we don't need, and (c) we have no control at all of the programming, so you never know who else might appear or how you might be blindsided.

OLL agrees with this policy. Although Senator Eagleton is on the SSCI, it is believed he will be sympathetic to our position.

4. Recommendation: Sign the attached letters of regret.



George V. Lauder

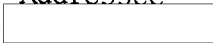
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Attachment  
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DCI/PAO,  8 May 1985

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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

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11 17 MAY 1985

John C. Danforth  
 United States Senator  
 497 Russell Building  
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Danforth:

I wish to thank you and Senator Eagleton for your kind invitation to me to appear on a segment of KMOX Radio's Washington program in June, which I am afraid I must decline.

We have found that radio and television appearances as a rule are not appropriate forums for intelligence officials. Such media events tend to send the wrong signal abroad to those upon whose cooperation we rely, especially when such relationships are marked with confidentiality. I am sure you understand.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey  
 Director of Central Intelligence

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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry	
85-	1804/2

17 MAY 1985

Thomas F. Eagleton  
 United States Senator  
 197 Dirksen Building  
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Eagleton:

My thanks to you and Senator Danforth for your thoughtful invitation to me to appear on St. Louis' KMOX Radio during their June program in Washington. I am sure you will understand when I say that I must decline.

We have found that with few exceptions--such as an occasional appearance by a recruiter--radio and television are inappropriate for intelligence officials inasmuch as such appearances tend to send the wrong signal abroad to those we work with.

I am nevertheless grateful to you for considering me.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey  
 Director of Central Intelligence

DCI/PAO/GVLauder [redacted] 3 May 1985

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